



UD04/TASWEX 04 ASW LWT: Preparing for War

By Matt Barron, UD04 Training Team Lead

NAVOCEANO recently hosted members from the worldwide Naval Oceanography enterprise for a five-week training program prior to their debut as the Antisubmarine Warfare (ASW) Littoral Warfare Team (LWT). Fifteen men and women, officers and enlisted, were hand-picked to become part of our enterprise's future and participate in two of the largest Fleet ASW exercises in the last decade.

Many of you who have been in the Oceanography community for more than 10 years know that warfare in the Navy is cyclical. ASW was king during the Cold War era, when the Soviet Union provided a large, credible threat. After the Berlin Wall fell, so did the amount of ASW resources within the Navy.

However, the current world political climate and recent financial growth by many second and third world countries have raised concerns among Navy leaders about the Rest of the World (ROW) submarine force. This ROW submarine force has become more and more technologically advanced with the widespread sales of modern German, French, Russian and Swedish designs. Thus, a gap started to form between U.S. and ROW numbers that helped spawn a new CNO-mandated focus on ASW.

When Task Force ASW was formed nearly two years ago it joined the Program Executive Office for Integrated Warfare Systems (PEO IWS) at Naval Sea Systems Command

See **ASW LWT**, page 7.

Naval Oceanographic Office Aids in Safety of Navigation in Tsunami-Ravaged Areas



As part of the Fleet Survey Team, a NAVOCEANO civilian collects data aboard a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat in south Asia in support of humanitarian relief efforts.

Military and civilian personnel from NAVOCEANO are supporting the United States' humanitarian relief efforts in south Asia in the wake of a 9.0 earthquake and subsequent tsunami that took place in the region December 26, 2004.

Responsible for delivering oceanographic products and services to the U.S. Navy fleet, NAVOCEANO's expertise in

mapping the harbors and channels of the affected areas was critical, since relief ships could not enter the ports until surveys confirmed the waterways were safe for navigation.

Using precise Global Positioning Systems, shallow-water multibeam sonar, side-scan sonar, current meters and tide gauges, NAVOCEANO personnel

See **Tsunami**, page 6.

NAVOCEANO Leadership

Martinek Named NAVOCEANO's New TD



Mr. Charles Martinek

Former executive officer and commanding officer of NAVOCEANO and deputy oceanographer of the Navy, Mr. Charles Martinek was named Technical Director of NAVOCEANO in late December 2004. Mr. Martinek's appointment ends a four-month vacancy in the position.

"We are fortunate to have someone with his experience to help guide us into the future," said Commanding Officer CAPT Jeffrey Best.

Mr. Martinek has also served as chairman of the Oceanography Department at the U.S. Naval Academy.

From the Commanding Officer

Happy New Year

The beginning of a new year is a great time to reflect on the accomplishments of last year and establish goals for the coming year.

The accomplishments of the Naval Oceanographic Office are numerous. We were key players in helping to fight the Global War on Terrorism, demonstrated tremendous teamwork supporting TASWEX-04 in the western Pacific, recovered a piece of gear lost from a USNS ship which saved the Navy \$14M, donated over \$10K worth of toys for "Toys for Tots" and really came together in support of the tsunami disaster support effort. I could not be more proud to be your commanding officer.

A special recognition needs to go to our Public Affairs Office personnel who have just worked tirelessly to make sure the Naval Oceanographic Office remains in the spotlight.

As far as goals for the coming years, it is often helpful to write your personal goals down on a piece of paper. This allows you to think about what you really want to accomplish over the next year. Then take this paper and seal it in an envelope for the year. Put it someplace where you can find it at the end of the year. Take a look at the note a year from now—did you accomplish everything on your list? Were your goals too hard to accomplish? Can you refine these goals for the following years?

This is a great drill to help you really think about some of your short- and long-term goals and what you want to accomplish. Try it. It might help you break through to the next level.

So what about goals for NAVOCEANO? The first goal I envision is to build on our great reputation in the fleet. We need to continue to sell ourselves so the warfighter knows to come to us for vital information to help him make decisions.

The next goal is to restructure the organization to best fit the realignment of the community. Most of you have heard me discuss how we are organizing along nine business lines. NAVOCEANO directly supports six of these nine lines. It is clear to me that we cannot efficiently and effectively support these lines with our current structure.

We have a committee chartered by our Strategic Action Group to recommend changes in our organizational structure to best reflect the changes in the enterprise (or community). Our new Technical Director, Mr. Charles Martinek, and Mr. Richard Simmons will lead this committee.

I would also like to take the time to announce a few key personnel who have just joined or are changing jobs within the NAVOCEANO team.

First I am very happy to have a former commanding officer of NAVOCEANO as our new Technical Director. Mr. Charles Martinek brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the office. Some of his past tours include commanding officer (CO) of one of our oceanographic units (OCUNITS), commanding officer of NAVOCEANO, deputy oceanographer of the Navy and chairman of the Oceanography Department at the United States Naval Academy. He also has extensive experience in the business world as a Vice President for Planning Systems, Inc. (PSI) in the Gulf Coast region. I really look forward to working with him, and he is very excited about coming back to

NAVOCEANO.

We have two additional people who will be taking over key positions in the organization. The first one is Mr. Matt Barron. I

have chosen Matt as my new Executive Assistant (EA). Matt has worked at NAVOCEANO for 11 years and brings a wealth of knowledge, especially in the area of Antisubmarine Warfare (ASW). Matt will be a great addition to the Front Office.

I would like to publicly thank Dr. Angel Velazquez for his superb job as the EA for the last two years. He has really helped during the transition of personnel over the last six months. His professionalism and perseverance have been greatly appreciated.

Lastly, we have hired a new ASW program manager, Mr. Keith Atkinson. Many of you know him as a former NAVOCEANO employee. Keith has been with the Professional Development Detachment Norfolk for the last 5 years and is one of the true ASW experts in the Navy. I am very pleased not only as the CO of NAVOCEANO but also as the ASW Director of Oceanography Operations. He will be an essential piece of the ASW team.

I would like to end by wishing everyone a safe and prosperous New Year. We have many challenges ahead this year, but I have full confidence in the superb men and women of this great organization to turn these challenges into opportunities. I look forward to enhancing our engagement with the warfighter as we help protect all the men and women of this great country.



*CAPT Jeffrey Best
Commanding Officer*

Welcome Aboard

Lisa Baehr

Matthew Boren

Megan Corr

BM2 Daniel Dorrough

Kristen Ford

Jeffrey King

Charles Martinek

Stephanie Peters

John Rath

Kristen Thorton

Brenda Welch

Department Highlight

N2: Providing Products and Services to the Warfighter

Manned 365 days a year, the NAVOCEANO Warfighting Support Center (WSC) provides oceanographic products and services that are of tactical importance to support the Fleet and Joint operations.

These products are delivered strategically and within hours to the warfighter for use in operational and tactical decisionmaking.

This department, led by Bill Lingsch, is comprised of approximately 111 civilian, military and contractor personnel and is responsible for developing made-to-order oceanographic products.

The WSC performs detailed analysis of the littoral and riverine environment using satellite imagery, supplemented by open-source scientific studies and products from departments throughout NAVOCEANO.

When conventional NAVOCEANO data sources are not available, the WSC uses techniques to derive bathymetry for N3's wave and surf models using com-

mercial imagery sources such as Quickbird and IKONOS.

The use of these techniques also enables detection of navigation hazards for input into a tactical decision aid, the Mine Warfare Environmental Decision Aid Library (MEDAL), maintained by N5.

"Being a fusion center for using imagery as the base to create oceanographic and climatology products, we fuse the environmental picture that the warfighter needs," Lingsch said.

To accomplish NAVOCEANO's mission, N2 supplies the entire office with daily Indications and Warnings (I&W) for both production and travelers going abroad.

Using a technique called "Smart Push," worldwide targets are anticipated using I&W in which products and ocean models are developed and then pushed to potential customers. This technique is spearheaded by Al Molnar.

N2's primary focus of these efforts are

for Special Operations Forces and Expeditionary Warfare in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Currently N2 is working on a strategic initiative called the Mobile Oceanography Support Team (MOST), which provides a full production capability at the warfighters' critical decision planning facilities. This provides a rapid-response on-site capability and eliminates operational security issues.

To stay on top of new advances, N2 works closely with research and development activities such as Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) and the Navy Tactical Exploitation of National Capability (TENCAP).

N2 employs System Engineers and System Integrators (SESI) who track industry and government technology. These personnel assist in the continuous transition and improvement of production capabilities in the WSC.

The goals of N2 are aligned with

See **N2**, page 9.

Employee Spotlight

"We are here to support the Navy."

Alan Foster, of N2's Western Branch, sees the Strategic Plan goal of relevancy as part of his day-to-day job. That's because his focus is to strengthen the relevancy and responsiveness of NAVOCEANO products to the warfighter.

"My goal is to provide relevant information by asking the customer for specifics of their requests and responding with the most accurate answer as quickly as possible," Foster said.

A Selma, Ala., native, Foster graduated with a bachelor's in environmental biology from Auburn University, receiving his master's in marine science from the University of South Alabama. He began his career at NAVOCEANO in 1997 as a physical oceanographer and now works in the Western Branch within the Warfighting Support Center as the USCENTCOM regional specialist deriv-

ing oceanographic features from satellite imagery.

Foster also oversees all production needs under Surf Eagle as the Surf Eagle EPG Segment Manager.

During his NAVOCEANO career, Foster has worked on many interesting projects. The support provided during operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom are among a few. "The day after 9/11, our workload peaked to capacity and continues to this day," Foster said. "Since then, we have learned to anticipate who our next customer will be and what type of information the customer might request. This has increased our efficiency and allowed us to broaden our scope of products that we can provide the warfighter."

Foster encourages his coworkers to learn more about the customer. "The person asking for specific information

may not be aware of the amount of additional information that can be provided," Foster said.

Foster says he has found the key to assuring a return customer is building a working relationship and communicating the extent of additional information and products that NAVOCEANO can provide in a timely manner.

The best part of his job is mentoring new people. "I enjoy sharing my knowledge and ideas with others," Foster said.



N2's Alan Foster

NAVOCEANO News

"Leftovers" from NAVO's Move to Miss. Gather for Luncheon

By Ben Surratt, formerly of NAVOCEANO



From left, Ben Surratt, Pauline Barnes (carded because of her youthful look) and Bill White were responsible for arranging the luncheon for former employees in the Suitland, Md., area.

Editor's Note: The NAVOCEANO Leftovers are an unofficial group of former employees who did not move with NAVOCEANO to Mississippi in 1976 from Suitland, Md.

One-hundred-and-ten people gathered for the 25th Annual NAVOCEANO Leftovers luncheon held on the first Friday of December. The ranks of attendees may have trimmed down over the last 25 years, but the crowd was still lively and enthusiastic as old friends and coworkers met to discuss old times and new. Numerous door prizes were given out and pictures exchanged. Only, when the names of those for whom the bell tolled during the last year were read, did a hush fall over the attendees.

This year, as last, the function was held at the Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 in Greenbelt, Md. Everyone agreed that the food and site of the luncheon were a success and to meet again at the same site next year.

So, if you are in the neighborhood next year on the first Friday of December, join us. For more information, call (301) 736-8054.

Employee Excellence

Lever Named Premier 100 IT Leader

John Lever, former command information officer at NAVOCEANO and now director of information architecture governance at COMNAVMETOCOM, was recognized by Computerworld Magazine as one of the business world's Premier 100 IT Leaders.

The award honors executives who show exemplary technology leadership in resolving pressing business problems. Lever was named and profiled in the January 3 issue of Computerworld and will be honored at Computerworld's Premier 100 IT Leaders Conference in Arizona in March.

Lever was selected from nearly 600 nominees, who were measured against Computerworld's IT Leadership Index, a set of characteristics that describes executives who guide the effective use of IT in their organizations, and evaluated by the editors and an external panel of outside judges.

"Our Premier 100 list honors those who have kept fighting despite the many obstacles that technology has thrown at them this year," said Don Tennant, editor

-in-chief of Computerworld.

In the magazine, Lever advises focusing on a liberal arts education with a strong emphasis in mathematics/technology for launching a career in IT.

"Pure computer science or software engineering is too limiting for outward-focused IT management positions," said Lever. "Also, liberal arts provides the foundation for critical thinking, communication skills and a cultural reference model to base thoughts and actions upon."

A native of Macon, Miss., Lever started with NAVOCEANO in 1978, where he contributed to numerous environmental prediction systems. Lever then transitioned to program management, leading systems integration projects for Information Technology systems, including the Satellite Processing System Upgrade, the Ocean Technology Information System and the Altimetry Data Fusion Center.

He was appointed chief information officer at NAVOCEANO in 1998. Lever reported to COMNAVMETOCOM in December 2004.

NAVOCEANO News

Judge Roberson Speaks at NAVO in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Honorable Dalton A. Roberson spoke in honor of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on 18 January in the Maury Library.

Among his many accomplishments, Roberson, a retired judge, served on the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, was named the William Hastie Judge of the Year and is a lifetime member of the NAACP.

Speaking to a crowd of Stennis Space Center employees, Roberson reminded attendants to remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy. He stressed the importance of community involvement and family responsibility.

Roberson and his wife, Pearl, live in Diamondhead, Miss.

The NAVOCEANO Workforce Diversity Committee is always looking for new members and ideas for future events. To participate, call 688-5726.

For Your Benefit

Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC)

By Cynthia Warner, NAVOCEANO Human Resources

TCC is a feature of the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program that allows certain people to temporarily continue their FEHB coverage after regular coverage ends. TCC enrollees must pay the full premium for the plan they select (both the employee and government shares of the premium) plus a 2-percent administrative charge.

Federal employees and family members who lose their FEHB coverage because of a qualifying event may be eligible for TCC. For employees, the only qualifying event is separation from federal service.

For children, the qualifying events are (1) marriage; (2) reaching age 22; (3) loss of status as stepchild, foster child, or recognized natural child; (4) for children whose coverage has continued beyond age 22 because of their inability to support themselves due to a disability, recovery from the disability or ability to be self-supporting; (5) death of the employee or annuitant if the child does not qualify for a survivor annuity; and (6) survivor annuity stops for any reason, including because he or she is no longer a full-time student.

Spouses are not eligible for TCC in their own right; however, if the marriage ends other than by death (i.e., annulment or divorce), your former spouse is eligi-

ble for TCC.

Separating employees can continue TCC for up to 18 months after the date of separation. Children and former spouses can continue TCC for up to 36 months after the date of the qualifying event when the child or former spouse is covered as a family member of an employee or annuitant under a regular FEHB enrollment, or the date of the employee's separation, if the qualifying event occurs when the child or former spouse is covered under the TCC enrollment of a former employee.

If you lose your FEHB coverage because you leave your federal job, you are eligible for TCC unless your separation is involuntary due to gross misconduct. Otherwise, the reasons for your separation do not matter.

TCC enrollments and premiums begin on day 32 after your regular coverage ends (which happens on the last day of the pay period in which you separate). However, if you retire and are eligible to continue your regular FEHB coverage, you are not eligible for TCC because your regular FEHB coverage does not stop.

If your child wants TCC, you must notify NAVOCEANO within 60 days after the qualifying event and supply the child's mailing address. The child must make his or her election within 60 days

of the date of the qualifying event, or the date the child receives the notice about TCC.

For your former spouse to be eligible for TCC, he/she must have been covered under your FEHB family enrollment at some time during the 18 months before the marriage ended. If your former spouse wants TCC, you both share the responsibility for notifying NAVOCEANO within 60 days after the qualifying event (divorce or annulment) and supplying the former spouse's mailing address.

After the initial enrollment, a TCC enrollee may change enrollment during the annual FEHB open season or, generally, when an event occurs that would allow an employee to change enrollment. A TCC enrollee may change enrollment from "self and family" to "self only" at any time.

Your TCC coverage ends either because the period of temporary continuation expires or you cancel the enrollment. If your enrollment ends because the TCC period expires, you are entitled to a 31-day temporary extension in the same enrollment category held at the time TCC expires for conversion to an individual contract.

For more information on TCC, visit <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/tcc>.

Employee Excellence



AG1 Travis Younce Named Sailor of the 3rd Quarter

Aerographer's Mate First Class (Air Warfare/Surface Warfare) Travis A. Younce was recently awarded NAVOCEANO's Sailor of the Quarter for the third quarter.

Younce was selected for superior performance of duty while serving as NAVOCEANO's Antisubmarine Warfare Littoral Warfare Team junior Watch Officer.

Younce is the son of Nicholas and Jennifer Lenz of Broken Arrow, Okla. Younce currently resides in Waveland, Miss., with his wife, Emily.

AG1 (AW/SW) Travis A. Younce

NAVOCEANO Cares

NAVO Employees Pledge \$80K to CFC

NAVOCEANO employees pledged \$616.52 more than their \$80,000 goal in the 2004 Combined Federal Campaign.

Although approximately 20 fewer NAVOCEANO employees donated this year, the total amount pledged surpassed last year's total donations.

"I think Hurricane Ivan made people aware of the money needed," said Tiffany Cassidy, NAVOCEANO coordinator.

Holidays at NAVOCEANO



NAVOCEANO Open House

NAVOCEANO hosted its annual Holiday Open House on 16 December. Friends and family of NAVOCEANO gathered in the lobby and along the balcony of the building to sing Christmas carols, congratulate Door Decorating Contest winners and greet Santa Claus (NAVOCEANO's Martin Booda). The Holiday Open House is an annual event that allows NAVOCEANO family members to visit the Office and socialize with other NAVOCEANO families.

At left, Santa (Martin Booda, N342) gets a visit from Chazz Carr, son of YN1 Annette Batts, Survey Operations Center.

Schoolchildren Decorate NAVO's Holiday Tree

Students in pre-kindergarten through 6th grade at St. Paul Catholic School in Pass Christian, Miss., decorated more than 100 seahorse ornaments for the holiday tree in the NAVOCEANO lobby.

Seahorses were outfitted with shiny red noses and had lots of colorful treats in their sleighs.

Jonathan Lopez, a student in Graphics (N121G), created the design.



Deck the Halls...and Doors

Twenty-four colorful doors competed in NAVOCEANO's annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest. Winners were as follows: Captain's Choice: LMSO (N7 contractor). Traditional Category: (1st place) AES (N7 contractor), (2nd) N8 and (3rd) N322. Original Category: (1st) N432, (2nd) OCA (pictured) and (3rd) OCA. Humorous Category: (1st) N81, (2nd) N321 and (3rd) N641. An Honorable Mention went to students in OCA, who fashioned a makeshift cubicle door out of boxes and decorated it for the contest.

Tsunami, continued from page 1.

deployed to the area to generate charts and identify aids and hazards to navigation. Once these areas were identified and charted, relief ships could navigate around potential obstacles left by the tsunami in the harbors and channels.

Currently assisting in survey operations in the area are NAVOCEANO's hydrographic ship, USNS MCDONNELL, and two rapid-response Fleet Survey Teams (FSTs), who are operating from boats of opportunity in the area. The FSTs quickly outfitted these boats of opportunity with nearly 2,500 pounds of

equipment needed for the surveys.

Back at Stennis Space Center, NAVOCEANO personnel are working around-the-clock in the Survey Operations Center receiving data from surveyors in south Asia. While the FSTs create field charts of the area, used for rough navigation, information supplied to NAVOCEANO is compiled and used in better quality products for the host countries.

The information collected by NAVOCEANO will be provided to Navy assets engaged in the relief support as well as to host country officials.

Around SSC

Introducing SSC's The Stennis News

Stennis Space Center (SSC) now has its own monthly newspaper, *The Stennis News*. The newspaper will highlight the more than 30 government agencies, vendors, contractors and tenants around SSC.

You can pick up a copy of the first edition, February 2005, at newsstands around SSC and at entrances to Buildings 1002 and 1003 this month.

ASW LWT, continued from page 1.

(NAVSEASYSOM) and was followed by the Fleet ASW Command, which, taken together, form the new Navy ASW hierarchy.

Task Force ASW's charter is to make prioritized program recommendations, push ASW technology to enable greater efficiencies, and review Navy Staff operational planning. To do this, the Task Force designed a series of experiments to investigate new technologies and operational concepts that could increase the ASW proficiency of our maritime forces. Experiment Four is a two-phase series called Undersea Dominance 2004 (UD04) and Theater ASW Exercise 2004 (TASWEX04). The focus of the UD04 sea test was on the Maritime Shield of Sea Base operations, while TASWEX04 emphasized Hold at Risk and Maritime Shield operations supported by Battlespace Preparations.

A short summary of these terms: Sea Strike—Projecting Precise and Persistent Offensive Power; Sea Shield—Projecting Global Defensive Assurance; and Sea Basing—Projecting Joint Operational Independence. They are also the basis for CNO's Navy Transformation, Sea Power 21, and ASW Master Plan guidance.

The meteorology and oceanography (METOC) community pledged to support Experiment Four in several ways.

First, in support of the Environmental Intelligence Preparation of the UD04/TASWEX04 Battlespace, NAVOCEANO provided a T-AGS 60 class ship pre-exercise and during the exercise—USNS HEEZEN and USNS BOWDITCH. HEEZEN completed two surveys prior to the start of the exercises, which provided data to build environmental products for planning various acoustic technology demonstrations and tests, navigation and situational awareness. BOWDITCH collected relevant survey data throughout the exercise and served as deployment/recovery platform for several important pieces of exercise equipment. In addition to these two ships, the community provided ASW LWTs to CTF 74, CTF 72 and DESRON 15 to support the warfighter real-time.



Row 1: Matt Barron, AG1 Beau Tewelow, AG1 Cecil Baldwin, AG1 Patricia Kelly, AGC James Hatch. Row 2: Clay Hull, CDR Vince Giampaolo, ENS Tina Billings, AG1 Tori Moffitt, LTJG Scott Parker. Row 3: CDR Tim Gallaudet, ENS Dave Watson, LTJG Tony DePalma, LT Debbie Mabey, AGC Robert Williamson, LT Santiago Carrizosa, AG1 Jim Cummings. Not Pictured: ASW Program Manager CDR Roy Ledesma, CDR Monty Spearman, UD04 Training Assistant LT Tim Campo, AGC David Sonnier, AG1 Travis Younce

Finally, a 24/7 Reach Back Cell (RBC) was stood up to provide tailored and direct ASW support to the forward-deployed LWTs to demonstrate the tactical relevance of the Naval oceanography enterprise at key ASW decision nodes (CTF 74, CTF 72 and DESRON 15). This RBC, located at NAVOCEANO, was built around the remaining trained LWT personnel. Accordingly, CTF 74 and PEO-IWS exercise planners have recognized and acknowledged the valuable role that Naval Oceanography has demonstrated thus far during UD04/TASWEX04.

Although the 15 individuals who formed this first LWT were all military, future ASW LWTs will be composed of both military and civilian personnel. These personnel will be deployed to forward locations (operational ASW nodes) and flesh out the permanent NAVO RBC component. It is a pilot program that seeks to spiral-develop operational concepts as resources, capabilities and experiences grow. The program can hopefully increase unambiguous warning time in campaign analyses and provide more "room to breathe" for operational planners by contributing to the Preparation of the Environment, reach back capability,

knowledge of good/bad water for platform and sensor deployments and a forum for R&D transitions. These are all great fits for the stated objectives of Experiment Four; the only thing left to do was to provide training to the LWT members so that they could all be qualified for watch, aware of how to use Fleet ASW Tactical Decision Aids (TDAs) and other tools and know the production capabilities of the METOC claimancy.

The trainees reported for duty on 30 August, and over the next several weeks underwent three training phases: Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced. They received background briefs about METOC products, TDAs, GI&S, Webcentric warfare and a Tabletop Exercise. When class finished on 29 September all of them were more knowledgeable than when they arrived (based on test scores and one-on-one discussions) and were judged to be qualified for further LWT responsibilities. Many of the team have now left NAVOCEANO and have gone forward to support Experiment Four, but the facts remain: they were the first LWT, and our future as a claimancy partially rests in their hands. We wish them the best for their debut.

Around NAVOCEANO

NAVOCEANO Boat Operations Begin in Gulfport With BOB

For nearly a decade, Boat Operations, also known as BOB, has been a viable part of the NAVOCEANO employee training, development and skill enhancement program.

Located in the Gulfport Harbor on the Gulf of Mexico adjacent to Marine Life, the BOB facility provides on-the-spot operational training platforms, equipment and software testing and survey support.

NAVOCEANO employees, as well as students from the University of Southern Mississippi's (USM) Department of Marine Science, are eligible to take advantage of instruction on the principles of oceanography and hydrography offered by BOB.

Under the management of the Logistics and Management Services Department (N1) and staffed by eight military and one civilian personnel under the supervision of ENC Cecil Watt and James Stubbs, BOB houses three Hydrographic Survey Launches (HSLs) and a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB). These vessels support a variety of missions within NAVOCEANO to meet all training, equipment testing and surveying requirements.

A typical day for the members of BOB includes operational check and

maintenance of the vessels and equipment support to ensure operational readiness. For military personnel, a physical fitness program and individual/team training exercises to maintain sailor proficiencies are also scheduled.

Because of their location on the Gulf of Mexico, during hurricane season, BOB personnel closely watch for any potential threat to the area. This year as Hurricane Ivan made his way toward the Mississippi Gulf Coast, BOB took action and packed all essential equipment, including the vessels, and moved to higher ground.

NAVOCEANO surveyors, the students of the USM's Hydrographic Science master's degree program and international students assigned to the NAVOCEANO's International Hydrographic Management and Engineering Program use a Bertram vessel named *NAVOCEANO* for on-the-job training and to satisfy academic requirements.

The expanded layout of the Bertram, at a length of 46'6", provides space for 15 students to work and participate in hands-on learning.

Because these vessels are outfitted with their own integrated survey systems, surveyors and students gain first-hand knowledge of the high-tech survey equipment onboard NAVOCEANO's survey ships. Surveyors and students also have the ability to use the vessel's post-processing capabilities to immediately visualize the collected data in near-real time.

Whereas the HSL 712 and the HSL 15, also located at BOB, are capable of conducting surveys locally, the Bertram is able to conduct surveys off the coast of



EM3 Brian S. Ward tests an engine on the Bertram training vessel.

Alabama and Florida. To do this, BOB personnel must travel approximately eight hours on boat to meet survey needs.

With the increase of surveys from 50 underway days per year to greater than 350 annually, BOB continues to meet the demands on a daily basis to accomplish NAVOCEANO's mission.

In Memory

Mr. Danny McGee

Danny McGee, 48, died Friday, 7 January in Picayune, Miss.

McGee was born the eleventh of 13 children in Hattiesburg, Miss. He graduated from Alcorn State in 1980 and then began his career at NAVOCEANO. McGee was employed as a physical scientist in the Tactical Charting Branch.

"Danny was serving in the position of project coordinator maintaining our production schedule. Since coming down from N42, he had been an instrumental player in our efforts," said Steve Harrison, N433 Branch Head.

The funeral service was held 14 January in Picayune.



The crew at Boat Operations includes (Row 1) BMC(SW/SCW) Cecil Watt, ENC(SW) Roger Rumbaugh, (Row 2) EM2(SW/AW) Brian Ward, BM2(SW/AW) David Pendley, EN1(SW) Gary Reiter, BM2(SW) Daniel Dorrough, EM1(SW/AW) Michael Carter (Row 3) Marshall Smith and EN2 Jason Summerville.

N2, continued from page 3.

NAVOCEANO's Strategic Plan and focus on the major warfare areas such as Naval Special Warfare, Expeditionary Warfare and MIW.

"N2 is focused on Relevancy within the Strategic Plan," Lingsch said. "To be relevant in the Global War on Terrorism, NAVOCEANO must be able to respond to the warfighter within hours, and that is what N2 strives to do."

To implement the Strategic Plan, N2 has developed a new organizational structure and CONOPS that are driven by the Strategic Plan for smart collection and relevant focused production.

In the near future, N2 would like to

transform the WSC production capability to provide digital database-driven environmental information for specific warfighter mission areas.

"It's fulfilling to know that N2 is putting out a relevant product that impacts how the customers conduct their mission in order to be successful," said Lingsch.

Lingsch began his career with NAVOCEANO 23 years ago. He graduated from Richard Stockton State College of New Jersey with a bachelor of science degree in marine science emphasizing in physical oceanography. Lingsch has been N2's director since 2001.

In the Community

NAVOCEANO's Terry Shelby Recognized for Hurricane Ivan Recovery Efforts

When Hurricane Ivan devastated the Alabama/Florida Panhandle area on 16 Sept. 2004, the call for assistance went out across the nation. Media offered numerous accounts of the generosity and goodwill of those who donated time and money to assist thousands affected by the storm without expectations of awards or recognition.

The efforts of NAVOCEANO's Terry Shelby (N123) did not go unnoticed. Pensacola, Fla., radio station 94.1, named Terry a "Hurricane Ivan Hero" for his contributions. The radio station gave Terry \$94 and made a \$250 donation to an area hospital in his name.

Immediately following the hurricane, Terry and his wife, Evie, gathered food, water, generators and supplies and headed to Pensacola, where Terry's mother and other family members live. Not only did Terry assist his family, but he also set out to help all the other families in the neighborhood. Working tirelessly for days, Terry cut limbs, put tarps over damaged roofs and did whatever was necessary to provide basic necessities for the victims.

Terry's sister, Pat, was so touched by what her brother did for his family and

everyone else in their neighborhood that she nominated him for the Hero award. In December, Terry was notified he had been selected.

"I don't see myself as a hero. I just did what needed to be done during a difficult time for those folks in Pensacola," said Terry. "They would have done the same for all of us here in south Mississippi if the storm had affected us instead."

Terry also wanted to acknowledge others at NAVOCEANO who contributed ice, fuel, generators and supplies that he took with him to Pensacola. Wayne and Sandra Owen, Mary Jones (CNMOC) and Marshall Smith played a key role in his efforts. "To them and all the other NAVOCEANO employees who have not been recognized, I thank you for your kind assistance to our neighbors to the east," he said.



Terry Shelby

Safety Matters

Ergonomics

Avoid work-related injuries, like back strain and carpal tunnel syndrome, by making sure your workspace fits your body. Even a few inches can make a difference in your safety and health.

- When sitting in your chair, feet should rest flat on the floor, and your lower back should have good support.
- The keyboard and mouse should be located 1-2 inches from your thighs. Elbows and wrists should be in a straight line while keyboarding.
- The top of the monitor should be level with your eyes and no more than an arm's length away. Do not twist your neck to look at the monitor.
- Have room to stretch your legs.
- Use the right tools for workplace tasks and keep them in good working order.
- Start a daily exercise program to improve your strength and flexibility.
- Learn how to lift correctly.
- If you end up stiff or sore after a certain type of work, something in the workplace needs adjusting. Pay close attention if:
 - Your hands tingle or feel numb.
 - It hurts to grip something.
 - Your hands or wrists are swollen for an extended period of time.
 - Your thumbs hurt.
 - You feel pain in your back or legs.

- Naval Safety Center SafeTips

Upcoming Events

February is **Black History Month**.

A **Town Hall Meeting** for N5 and 0-Codes will be held in the StenniSphere auditorium on Thursday, 10 February from 1-3 p.m.

Monday, 21 February is **President's Day**, a federal holiday.

March is **Women's History Month**.

A **Book Sale** will take place 8-9 March in the Atrium of Building 1100.

Lunch With the XO

NAVOCEANO Executive Officer CAPT Andy Brown (center) held his second Brown Bag Lunch with the XO in December.

Twelve employees from various codes attended to speak informally with the XO over lunch about issues that concerned them, questions raised by other meetings and suggestions on how to improve the Command.



Tsunami Survey

A Fleet Survey Team member performs a survey in a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat driven by an unidentified sailor. The survey was conducted in support of the humanitarian relief efforts in south Asia.

Members of the Fleet Survey Team were sent to the area in January.



ARGONAUTS

In January, ARGONAUTS from Tupelo Middle School in Tupelo, Miss., visited NAVOCEANO's MSRC Visualization Lab, where they experienced 3-D ocean imagery.

Their female counterparts, MERMAIDS, visited NAVOCEANO in December. The groups are part of an effort to enlighten students about aerospace and marine education.



Town Hall Meeting

CAPT Jeff Best (standing) held his third Town Hall Meeting with N6 in early January. N6 packed the StenniSphere auditorium to hear CAPT Best's comments on outsourcing, feedback from the Command Climate Survey and other topics of interest.

The next Town Hall Meeting will take place 10 February from 1300 to 1500 with N5 and the "0" Codes.



Awards

Civilian Length of Service

This listing contains awards dated February through March 2005.

5 Years

Marjorie S. McGraw
Melissa R. Odom

10 Years

Brenda L. Gilbert

15 Years

Gregory J. Bodet
Lester G. Curvin II
Georgia A. Goodell
Patricia S. Harrison
Christopher S. Robinson
Jay A. Wallmark
Kimberly L. Whitfield

20 Years

Daniel G. Berkshire
Melody A. Clifford
Dwight A. Johnson

Robin R. McCaffrey
R. Daryl Vaught

25 Years

Shirley D. Dorsey
Charlene M. Johnson
Danny C. McGee
Richard K. Myrick
Carl Szczechowski

30 Years

Virgil R. Bettencourt
James C. Stubbs

35 Years

Allen Lowrie
Ronald J. Martin
Gerald E. Oberlies

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

ENS Tina M. Billings
AG1 (AW/SW) Travis A. Younce

Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

LT Timothy R. Campo
LTJG Charles A. DePalma
LT Jason Jones
LT Deborah L. Mabey

On the Spot Award

Greg Bodet
Cindy Bricker
Robert Delgado
Jerry Gathof
Devin Goodwin
Catherine Griffon
Molly Haynes
Christine Jarrett
Craig Kelly
William McQueary
Debbie Poffenberger
Bragg Sherrer
Margaret South
Wendy Wilz

In the Community

Holidays at NAVOCEANO Benefit Thousands of Area Kids

Holidays at NAVOCEANO are busy, rewarding and packed with toys, thanks to employees who donate to several causes around the office that benefit local children, such as Toys for Tots and Christmas Kids.

For six years, employees at NAVOCEANO have raised money with an annual golf tournament benefiting the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots program. This year, NAVOCEANO raised and donated more than ever. Employees presented hundreds of toys valued at more than \$10,000 to Toys for Tots just in time for Christmas.

"The Toys for Tots program is a wonderful asset to the community," said CAPT Jeff Best. "We applaud the continued efforts of the Marine Corps to make every child's dream come true."

NAVOCEANO participated in the annual Maury Morale Toys for Tots Golf Tournament in the fall, which raised approximately \$8,000. Toy donations totaling over \$2,000 were also made by

NAVOCEANO and COMNAVMETOC-COM employees.

NAVOCEANO employees Tracy Patman (Western Branch) and Suzy Dyle (Fleet Products Branch) also continued their annual holiday traditions

Patman, a resident of Pass Christian, Miss., began donating to foster children from the Mississippi Department of Human Services in 1996, when she and her coworkers in the Warfighting Support Center bought clothes and toys for 20 kids in Hancock County, Miss.

Since then, Patman has involved other agencies and organizations around Stennis Space Center to contribute to the "Christmas Kids" program.

Dyle, a resident of Picayune, Miss., also provides gifts for children in the area through a similar program in

Pearl River County, Miss.

Over the years, Patman and Dyle have collected gifts for hundreds of children in the area.

Thanks to the generosity of NAVOCEANO employees, children along the Gulf coasts enjoy a happy holiday season.



LCDR Todd Barnhill (Fleet Survey Team) and Mary Jones (CNMOC) load one of many boxes into the Marine Corps trucks that picked up all the toys.

NAVOCEANO News

NAVOCEANO Experiences Busy, Productive 2004

NAVOCEANO had a busy year supporting the warfighter in mission areas worldwide, surveying the world's oceans and expanding oceanographic technologies.

Leadership Changes

In July, CAPT Jeffrey Best replaced CAPT Philip Renaud as commanding officer of NAVOCEANO.

CAPT Andrew Brown III arrived as executive officer (XO) in August, relieving acting XO, CDR Monty Spearman.

CHARTS

Ribbon cutting ceremonies were held to dedicate the Joint Airborne LIDAR Bathymetry Technical Center of Expertise (JALBTCX) at Stennis International Airport in Hancock County, Miss.

The facility leverages resources among Navy, Army and NOAA to meet mapping and charting needs of each organization while promoting enhancement of airborne LIDAR technology.

Fleet Survey Team

NAVOCEANO's quick-response, military Fleet Survey Team (FST) participated in a survey to collect Global Positioning System (GPS) data as part of the U.S. Navy 7th Fleet's Freedom Banner 2004 exercise in and around the port of Pyongtaek, South Korea to update charts for the region.

Locally, the FST took part in a survey in the waters off Pascagoula, Miss.,

designed to make navigation safer in the harbors and ports around Naval Station Pascagoula.

A combination of military and civilian FST members were also tasked in December to assist the tsunami efforts in south Asia. (*See page 1.*)

SAMS II

The Command took delivery of its second Subsurface Autonomous Mapping System (SAMS II), an autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) used for deep-sea oceanographic data collection.

Gliders

For the first time, gliders, a new type of unmanned survey technology, were deployed from a NAVOCEANO survey vessel as part of normal survey operations.

MSRC

A series of computing upgrades were made to one of the largest supercomputers in the world at the Major Shared Resource Center for High Performance Computing. These upgrades tripled the effective computing capability of the center to exceed 30 trillion calculations per second.

Community Involvement

NAVOCEANO continued to support education through programs such as the Ocean Science Mentoring Program, OCEANS ALIVE and Sea Scholars.



Employees also served as officials and tutors for the Regional Ocean Science Bowl.

Locally, NAVOCEANO worked with area Rotary Clubs to deliver a flat-screen computer loaded with the latest Geographic Information System software to Lynn Meadows Discovery Center in Gulfport, Miss. now incorporated into interactive exhibits at the Center.

Command personnel remained active in the local community through participation in the 2004 Area III Special Olympics, annual Share Thanksgiving food drive and the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program.

NAVOCEANO continues to contribute to our nation's defense efforts and plays a significant role in supporting the local communities where employees live and work.

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